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SUBJ/PUBLIC AFFAIRS-NAVAL SERVICE MEDICAL NEWS (NSMN) (94-17)//
POC/CAPT P.C. BISHOP/-/MED-00P (PUBLIC AFFAIRS)/-/TEL:(202)
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2. HEADLINES AND GENERAL INTEREST STORIES THIS WEEK:
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HEADLINE: MSC Officer Saves Drowning Boy

Grove City, PA (NSMN) -- It was near dusk on a warm evening when LTjg Tracie Crawshaw, MSC, was strolling the first green of the golf course at the Grove City Country Club in her Pennsylvania hometown. She was home on leave and enjoying the night air. In the distance, Lake Barmore, gentle and serene, reflected the last rays of the fading sun. That's when disaster struck.

She witnessed a canoe with three children in it capsize. But the danger wasn't immediately apparent, she said.

"I saw two children swimming for shore. It took a moment for me to realize that I had just seen three children in the canoe. I thought, 'This just doesn't look right.' Then I realized the third boy was in trouble. He began panicking and started to thrash around. That's when I knew I had to go after him."

According to eyewitnesses, Crawshaw, the radiation health officer on board USS Shenandoah (AD 44), sprinted nearly 100 yards to the lake's edge, then swam another 50 to reach the child.

"He was really out of control by the time I got to him," she

said. "He grabbed me and we both went under. My mind was working so fast, I remember thinking, 'What if we both drown? How would my family feel?' Soon the child lost consciousness. I wasn't scared, but I kept thinking, 'How am I going to get this kid out of here? If I can just get him to shore, everything will be okay,'" she said.

As a former competition swimmer, Crawshaw was able to tow the boy to shore, where she began cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Within minutes, the boy came around, paramedics arrived on the scene and Tracie Crawshaw walked away a hero.

"Nothing really hit me until it was all said and done," she said. "I have had a near drowning experience myself and it took about two weeks for me to realize the full weight of the situation.

"Once the boy came around, paramedics took charge of the scene and rushed the boy into an ambulance. I was told he was released from the hospital the next morning. I never got to meet him, but I plan to fix that when I go home next time," said Crawshaw, who was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for her actions.

When you suddenly find yourself in an overwhelming situation, one of two things happens, said Crawshaw. You either freeze or go. Although she's very glad she went, there is one thing she would have done differently: "Take off your tennis shoes first," she said with a warning smile. "You wouldn't believe how heavy they are full of water."

Story by JO2 Raymond Skibinski

Reprinted from The Flagship, 12 May 1994

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HEADLINE: Enterprise MSC Officer Seeks Safety Hazards

USS Enterprise (NSMN) -- LT Ruth Leonhardt, MSC, doesn't clean teeth. Her specialty is industrial hygiene, and the Lancaster, OH, native has been the assistant safety officer aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) since August 1992.

"Industrial Hygiene Officers (IHOs) don't clean teeth," said Leonhardt, who was one of the first women permanently assigned to a combatant vessel. "It's a popular misconception that an IHO is some kind of dentist. People keep trying to set up appointments with me to clean their teeth.

"In easy-to-understand terms, my job is to assess the health hazards present on the ship to make sure that there aren't any factors that will cause health problems."

This is a huge task considering Enterprise, the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, commissioned in 1961, is 25 stories high, 1,123 feet long, with more than 3,500 compartments and a 4.5-acre flight deck. Since January 1991, the ship, currently located in Newport News, VA, has been undergoing an extensive overhaul that involves refueling its eight nuclear reactors and gutting and rebuilding the ship's interior. The work presents a multitude of health hazards if not done correctly.

Leonhardt splits these health hazards into long-term and

short-term hazards.

"An example of a short-term hazard would be a welding fume," she said. "A fume is a heat-vaporized metal. When people weld, they vaporize a certain amount of metal, which enters the air they breathe.

"It feels like the flu, but it's actually a build-up of liquid in the lungs," Leonhardt said. "Inhaling these fumes can be very dangerous; but, in most cases, they just make the person feel miserable that night."

Leonhardt listed asbestos and lead poisoning as two examples of long-term health hazards.

"You can be exposed to a significant amount of asbestos today and not exhibit any health effects for 30 or 40 years," she said. "Long-term illnesses generally don't show up for a considerable amount of time and, once they do, frequently there isn't much you can do about them. You can alleviate symptoms, but you can't really fix the problem."

Enterprise's safety policy, which includes asbestos and lead control programs, conforms to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations. Leonhardt said implementing these regulations during Enterprise's overhaul is a constant challenge.

"The OSHA regulations were written with companies in mind. They don't fit very well to the format of a Navy ship," she said. "One of the toughest parts of my job is to find a way to meet all the regulations and make them work in a Navy setting."

One of Leonhardt's responsibilities as assistant safety officer is to supervise Enterprise's lead control program.

"We have what I believe to be the largest lead program in the Navy," she said. "There are other carriers that remove lead paint, but we are the first large ship to go through an overhaul like this since the Navy has started strictly enforcing OSHA regulations."

Despite the scope of the Enterprise lead program, the concept behind it is fairly simple.

"We normally assume Navy paint contains lead," Leonhardt said. "Ninety-seven percent of Navy paint sent to the lab comes back positive for lead, so we don't even send off samples unless we have a good reason to suspect they don't contain any lead. Our main focus is to ensure that crewmen working with Navy paint follow the proper safety precautions and wear the proper protective equipment."

When Leonhardt isn't looking for lead, she's checking for asbestos. She is Enterprise's asbestos control officer and runs the ship's asbestos lab as one of her collateral duties.

"We have a laboratory on the ship where we test possible asbestos material, like lagging," she said. "Using the ship's lab to test samples is much quicker and cheaper than sending them away."

Her shipwide searches for potentially hazardous materials like asbestos and lead have taken Leonhardt to some pretty strange places. She's climbed into potable water tanks to check for lead. She's crawled inside the ship's incinerator to look for asbestos. She's examined everything from auxiliary boilers

to fan rooms, and has inspected hundreds of spaces throughout the ship. Leonhardt said getting dirty is the fun part of her job.

"I often joke I'm the ship's canary, because people call and say, 'Hey, there's this smell down here that's making my eyes water, and my nose burn, and my throat hurt, and my chest feel tight. Can you come smell it?' ... I'm the ship's canary, all right. I sit on my perch and when I stop singing, it's time to leave."

Leonhardt doesn't sit on a perch or anything else for long, however, which is fine with her. "I need to be busy," she said. "I've never wanted a job where I just sat around." In fact, she admits that sometimes she steps on some toes adhering to OSHA regulations.

"Sometimes it seems like people dread seeing me," she said. "They see me come into their office and think, 'Oh, no. It's the IHO. She must have something we did wrong.'"

"I attract a lot of attention," Leonhardt said. "If I spend too much time in any one place, a khaki is bound to show up and say, 'Can I help you with something?'"

She said she finds most people easy to work with, but there are always exceptions.

"I normally meet with a lot of cooperation," Leonhardt said. "Occasionally, we (IHOs) get accused of not being team players because we end up stopping work."

"If we find an unsafe or unhealthy work practice, and it's necessary, we'll stop the job until something gets fixed," she said. "For example, if leadwork is being done and someone isn't wearing the proper protection, or if the boundaries aren't properly sealed, then we'll stop the job until they fix it."

Leonhardt said she tries to fix hazards on sight as much as possible.

"We always try to minimize work stoppages," she said. "If we can have them fix a problem right away, we don't write a formal hazard report on it. It's no longer a hazard."

Leonhardt's tour aboard Enterprise ends this September. She said she's anticipating orders to the First Marine Air Wing in Okinawa.

"That will be a job like this one," she said. "I'll be working with squadrons rather than on a ship and with Marines instead of sailors, but I'll still be doing industrial hygiene."

Leonhardt said that while her job here has had its ups and downs, she'll miss working aboard Enterprise.

"This has been my hardest job yet, but I've had the most fun here too," she said. "There are some really good people here."

Story by JO3 Art Picard

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HEADLINE: MWR Reaches Out to Operation Provide Promise

NAVBASE Seattle, WA (NSMN) -- It's been two months since personnel from San Diego's Fleet Hospital Six, including 18 physicians, nurses and corpsmen from Naval Hospital Bremerton, deployed to a location near Zagreb, Croatia, to operate a field hospital. Although their tents are climate controlled and sectioned for privacy, living 10 to a tent and standing by to

treat the U.N. Protection Forces at the edge of a bloody civil war creates a need that MWR wants to meet.

"The number one mission of Morale, Welfare and Recreation in this project is to support troops who are located in isolated or remote areas and trying to improve the living conditions in those areas," said Todd Benson, Regional Fleet Recreation Coordinator for the Northwest. "It also helps redirect their stress."

To meet this mission, Benson and several local MWR coordinators have put their own Operation Provide Promise into action. The effort, a brainstorm of Benson, Stacy Conner (coordinator for Puget Sound Naval Shipyard) and Mike Barron (coordinator for Submarine Base Bangor), consists of "a bunch of kits that we developed," said Benson.

The kits contain many items for MWR representatives to use in planning activities. "For example, a dart tournament," said Benson. "The kit will contain everything necessary to conduct the tournament, from the dartboard and darts to the promotional flyers and awards." But the activities aren't limited to tournaments. The package may include more passive events such as a creative writing or photography contest, said Benson. "We try to focus on skill development for these packages and encourage others to use their skills to teach a class, such as fly tying."

Funding for the program -- \$3,800 -- came from the Bureau of Naval Personnel. Included in the 11 kits sent to Croatia are ballcaps, sweatshirts and tournaments. "They also contained decorations for holidays and birthday kits," added Benson.

"It's heartwarming," said Sydney Sternad, Croatian Recreation Director for Operation Provide Promise. "Things are heating up here, but we're keeping folks as busy as possible. I don't know what I would have done without this support. It has already made a tremendous difference."

"One of my quietest corpsmen came up to me this morning," said Sternad, "excited because he was a second place winner in a Trivial Pursuit contest and has his photo posted in our little club, The Drydock. He couldn't wait to tell his parents."

Story by JO3 Jeff Parrott

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HEADLINE: NAVSUP/BUMED Quality Board Enters Second Year

BUMED Washington (NSMN) -- On 23 May 1994, VADM Donald Hagen, MC, and RADM Robert Moore, SC, will sign a Memorandum of Understanding between their commands that will continue the existence of the highly successfully Joint Quality Board. The board is actively engaged in efforts to increase exchange of information between the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery and the Naval Supply Systems Command and to improve customer/supplier roles. The result of this collaboration is improved logistics services and increased efficiency of existing logistics systems.

Throughout the past year, the Joint Quality Board has explored many subjects, including: the organizational and geographic location of PML-500; program management of the medical treatment facilities aboard the two Military Sealift Command hospital ships; integrated logistics support for deployable medical platforms; accounting systems for food service operations

in medical treatment facilities and general messes; an evaluation of the difference between the Navy Supply School in Athens, GA, and the Financial Management and Materiel Logistics course taught at the Naval School of Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD; and exploration of Prime Vendor initiatives for pharmaceuticals for afloat medical treatment facilities.

One result of these studies was the relocation to Fort Detrick, Frederick, MD, of PML-500, the Naval Supply Systems Command office responsible for planning and budgeting for fleet hospitals. This move allows PML-500 to be co-located with the Naval Medical Logistics Command, the Defense Medical Standardization Board and Army Medical Materiel Commands.

The Joint Quality Board is chaired by CAPT Dale E. McQuinn, SC, BUMED's Assistant Chief for Logistics. Among the members of the board are CAPT Gerry Baker, MSC, PML-500; CAPT Terry Irgens, Commanding Officer, Naval Medical Logistics Command; and CAPT Ronald Black, MSC, Medical Service Corps Career Planner. Quality Management Board (QMB) chairs include: CDR Faythe Weber, MSC, Food Service QMB; Black, Shared Staffing QMB; and Baker, Deployable Medical Platforms QMB.

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HEADLINE: NMC Oakland Receives Major Federal Award

NMC Oakland, CA (NSMN) -- The San Francisco Bay Area Federal Executive Board presented the prestigious Medical/Scientific Achievement Award to Naval Medical Center Oakland's Clinical Investigation Department at the Sixth Annual Federal Agencies of the Year Awards Ceremony on 4 May, which was held in conjunction with Public Service Recognition Week.

"This is the time during our busy year when the whole nation pays tribute to public servants at all levels of government," said David D. Drake, chair, Federal Executive Board. "We meet here to recognize, in a concrete visible way, the exemplary accomplishments of our peers and to let the whole Bay Area community know of the fine work done by federal employees."

According to the award documentation, the medical center's Clinical Investigation Department manages an average inventory of 80 to 100 active research protocols with the participation of approximately 100 resident and staff physicians serving as principal investigators or associate investigators. These projects vary in approach from basic studies in the molecular genetics of human disease to advanced application of investigational drugs and devices in the diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of disorders. As a result of these combined laboratory and clinical efforts, patients gain access to the most sophisticated diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities available. In addition, the hospital's physicians participate in the discovery and development of innovative technology.

"The award recognizes the research achievements of our staff and resident physicians who serve in the Graduate Medical Education programs at Naval Medical Center Oakland," said CAPT William Bishop, MC, head of the Clinical Investigation Department. "It acknowledges several years of very hard, concentrated work that came to fruition this year. I am

delighted that the efforts of these talented investigators and administrators are being recognized."

Naval Medical Center Oakland was one of 37 Bay Area military commands nominated for the Federal Agencies of the Year Awards.

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HEADLINE: Naval Hospital Orlando's ARD Closes

NAVHOSP Orlando, FL (NSMN) -- Naval Hospital Orlando began its drawdown with the closure of the Alcohol Rehabilitation Department (ARD) on 5 May 1994.

During more than a decade of operation, the rehabilitation unit has offered an alcohol/drug-free environment so that each individuals undergoing treatment could take full advantage of the recovery process. It has provided patients and health care providers with information about alcohol/drug use and abuse and alcoholism and has allowed each patient going through treatment the opportunity for movement toward self-exploration and self-implementation of action plans designed to maintain sobriety and enhance personal growth.

The ARD was first opened in September 1982, in the Navy Training Center's building 246, where it remained until 1986. In April 1987, the ARD moved to buildings situated adjacent to the main naval hospital building. During this time the ARD has had more than 1,800 patients in its 6-week in-house program.

Staff from the ARD have been re-located throughout the hospital and the training center.

Story by LT Martha L. Dasch, MSC

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3. Professional Notes: Information on upcoming symposiums, conferences or courses of interest to Navy Medical Department personnel and wrap-ups on ones attended. Anyone with information to share in this section should contact the editor (see the last paragraph of this message on ways to do so).

June Meetings:

-- 17-20 June 1994, the first reunion of The American Association of Navy Hospital Corpsmen, Memphis, TN. For more information, contact HMCS Joe Havens, 3452 Highland Park Place, Memphis, TN 38111; (901) 324-5693.

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HEADLINE: Camp Lejeune Holds MSC Symposium

NAVHOSP Camp Lejeune, NC (NSMN) -- Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune's MSC Professional Development Committee had worked seven months toward 12 April 1994 -- the day of the first, and maybe first annual, MSC Symposium.

Modeled after the American College of Healthcare Executives Congress on Administration, the day-long program offered 15 educational seminars, from which participants could select five to attend. Three rooms at the Paradise Point Officers' Club had a seminar in session at any given time throughout the day.

CAPT Kathleen Morrison, MSC, Deputy Director of the Medical Service Corps, opened the day's program with her keynote address on change in the medical service corps.

Former Desert Storm Prisoner of War CW05 Guy Hunter was on hand to share his experience in the Baghdad detention camps. Dr. Ron Gerrughty, Fitness Director for Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, enlightened his audience on exercise physiology. The Onslow County Emergency Management Coordinator, Mr. Don Herman, informed an audience on civil defense and disaster preparedness in the community. The Marine Corps Base Chief of Staff COL John Kopka presented "Correctness and Professionalism."

Symposium topics ranged from "Promotions and Promotion Boards" to an "AIDS/HIV Update." Other topics included "Fitness Reports," "Characteristics of Success with the FMF," "Managed Care," "JAG Investigations and NJPs," "Leadership," "JCAHO Agenda for Change," and "Financial Management."

The MSC Symposium was designed to accommodate the diversity of the MSC community and to bring together MSC officers who don't have the opportunity to interact with each other on a regular basis. Seminar topics were selected that would be of general interest to all, and a generous lunch period allowed for ample fellowship and socialization.

Sixty MSC officers from 12 Camp Lejeune and Cherry Point area commands attended the day's program. Most of the presenters were drawn from within the MSC community.

Many factors contributed to the success of the endeavor. Key among them were the interest, enthusiasm and support of the MSC officers in the community and the teamwork of the MSC Professional Development Committee, which was empowered by the command to put together the program to match the Committee's own vision. All three members worked very hard, using skills and talents that complimented each other. And they hope to do another such program next year.

Anyone wishing more information on Camp Lejeune's MSC Symposium can call any of the Committee members: LCDR Linda Boris, DSN 484-4105; LT Duane Panger, 484-4422; and ENS Roger House, 484-4693 (commercial prefix is 451 in area code 910).

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HEADLINE: NNOA Hold 22nd National Training Conference

CNO Washington (NSMN) -- The National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) will hold its 22nd Annual National Training Conference from 20 through 24 July 1994 at the Red Lion Inn, Mission Valley, San Diego, CA. This year's theme is "Strategies of the Nineties -- Preparing for the 21st Century."

Navy provides full support to the activities of NNOA. Membership includes active duty, Reserve and retired Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard officers whose goals are to assist the sea services in the area of minority officer recruitment/retention, career development and community relations.

Navy participation is highly encouraged. Commands are authorized to grant TAD orders to include registration fees, transportation cost and per diem for personnel wishing to attend, particularly NNOA members. If funds are not available, permissive TAD orders may be issued.

There will be no on-site registration this year. Registration applications must be in by 2 July 1994 to NNOA's

Management Office, C/O QMCS, 40 Lake Edge Dr., Euclid, OH 44123.
For more information or to obtain an application, call 1-800-772-6662. Navy POC is CDR Ronald Keys; (703) 697-8554, DSN 227-8554.
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4. Events and observances, 25 May - 7 June:

May

25 May: BUPERS Night Detailing until 2200 EDT
25 May: National Missing Children's Day
30 May: Memorial Day
31 May: VOTE! Arkansas State Primary
31 May: World No Tobacco Day
31 May: ENS FitReps Due

JUNE

Fireworks Safety Month (sponsored by Prevent Blindness America; call 1-800-331-2020 for more information)
National Hernia Month (1-800-322-BARD; in MA, 1-800-845-8852)
National Scleroderma Awareness Month (1-800-722-HOPE)
2 June: Career Nurse Assistants Day (216-825-9342)
2 June: Family Day
2 June: Teachers' Day
2 June 1924: Congress made Native Americans citizens
5-11 June: National Safety Week (708-692-4121, x18)
5-12 June: Safe Boating Week
6 June: E-7 Board Convenes
6 June 1944: D-Day -- Allied forces launch invasion of Normandy in northern France
7 June: National Health Care Recruiter Recognition Day
7 June: VOTE! Alabama, California, Iowa, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico and South Dakota Primaries

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5. ADDRESSEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT INFORMATION AND NEWS ITEMS OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OR BENEFICIARY INTEREST (IN STORY FORMAT) BY TELEPHONE, FAX OR E-MAIL TO BUMED, ATTN: EDITOR, NAVAL SERVICE MEDICAL NEWS (MED 00P2). TELEPHONE (202) 653-0793; DSN 294-0793. FAX (202) 653-0086; DSN 294-0086. E-MAIL NMC0ENL@BUMED10.MED.NAVY.MIL.

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